

chromographs are worth more than one annual subscription to the journal, and reflect credit on the skill which has produced such superb reproductions and the enterprise of the editorial directorate.

Several interesting papers follow on such subjects as the Bacteriology of variola and vaccinia, animal vaccination, etc. This number of the *British Medical Journal* is a fitting tribute, dedicated to the memory of one who is the recognized herald of a method of combating disease, which in various modifications is now only after a century has passed receiving proper appreciation ; and clear outlines of hopeful methods are looming out from the dim uncertainty of a century of groping.

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The following circular has been distributed among the practitioners of the Province by the Board of Health of the Province of Quebec:—

Montreal, May 6th, 1896.

Sir,—I have the honor to communicate to you the following extract from the minutes of our meeting of the 29th April last.

“ Being informed that a great number of cases of croup escape the control of sanitary authorities, and that it is mostly due to the public being generally under the impression that croup is not a contagious disease, the Board of Health of the Province of Quebec authorizes the publication of the following definitions:

“ Croup is nothing else than diphtheria attacking more especially the respiratory tract (larynx). The expression laryngeal diphtheria designates better than the term croup the nature of the disease and should be preferably employed.

“ Distinction should always be made between croup or laryngeal diphtheria, which is contagious, and false croup or laryngismus stridulus which is not contagious. There are no membranes in laryngismus stridulus or false-croup. The cough of croupal form which characterizes this disease is due only to a nervous element.

We hope, Sir, that each time you will have occasion to do so, you will see that the measures prescribed against diphtheria be equally applied against croup, both being one and the same disease.

I have the honor to be

Your obedient servant,

ELZEAR PELLETIER,

Secretary.